

March 27, 1973

SENATOR KENNEDY: Under the law we did not have, and this is the whole intent of the bill, is that we were using funds to pay a nurse that legally we couldn't do because it wasn't public funds.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well can you say of your own knowledge, do you know whether the county association of officials and the legal municipalities are in agreement with this bill?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I'm sure they would not object to it, it was such a simple bill to clarify what small communities were doing in serving schools, old age people that let's say the city of my little town was hiring a nurse for maybe three hours, and every month, they were paying this nurse so much, so many dollars per hour and they tell us this is not legal. I'm sure I can go to the county officials and they will okay it and everything else but I can't officially speak for them because we did not push to get support for the bill, because I didn't feel it was necessary.

SENATOR CARPENTER: What is the limitation of this nurse, or nurses can do, is there any limitation at all?

SENATOR KENNEDY: Well the only thing, you mean how much could this nurse be used, I think this would be the public officials prerogative, I suppose, it is in our area.

SENATOR CARPENTER: So in any case, the people who have the authority to -

SENATOR KENNEDY: The elected officials.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Elected to hire these nurses could enlarge this to any area that they wanted to in so far as the visiting nurse might do.

SENATOR KENNEDY: I would guess that is probably true, that's the way it lays now anyway.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now, how many towns for example are now doing things that under the law you don't think they could do legally?

SENATOR KENNEDY: Oh, I suppose if you went to numbers it would be difficult to say, I know within my very close area, and I can name off quite a few towns, so I suppose it would be quite a large situation.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well do you know of any other county who has visiting nurses outside of your area?

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes, they are what we call county nurses, visiting nurses.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Where are they at?

SENATOR KENNEDY: In our county they would be in Madison county would be headquartered out of the county court house, and then you have visiting nurses city wide, Norfolk I know has visiting nurses, Columbus has visiting nurses.

SENATOR CARPENTER: And of these areas in your judgement and from what you've heard, they are doing this thing illegally and have no right to pay out the money.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Certainly, our small towns is where it was brought to my attention. It was brought to my attention a year ago and I didn't believe that it was true until I looked into it.